

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A data transmission device for accessing from a remote unit at least one automation device via a standard browser, comprising a data conversion unit connected between the remote unit and at least one automation device and configured to convert data between a first communication protocol and a second communication protocol, wherein the data are exchanged between the at least one automation device and the data conversion unit and between the automation devices by using the first communication protocol, and wherein the data are exchanged between the data conversion unit and the remote unit according to a second communication protocol.
2. The device of claim 1, and further comprising a data processing unit connected between the data conversion unit and the remote unit, so that the data conversion unit exchanges data with the remote unit via the data processing unit.
3. The device of claim 2, wherein the data processing unit includes a web server.

4. The device of claim 2, and further including an operating and monitoring device connected between the data conversion unit and the data processing unit.
5. The device of claim 2, wherein the data conversion unit comprises a communication DLL for converting the data that are transmitted from the at least one automation device according to the first communication protocol for further processing by the data processing unit, wherein the data processing unit exchanges data with the remote unit according to the second communication protocol.
6. The device of claim 4, wherein the data conversion unit comprises a communication DLL for converting the data that are transmitted from the at least one automation device according to the first communication protocol for further processing by the operating and monitoring device, wherein the data processing unit exchanges data with the remote unit according to the second communication protocol.
7. The device of claim 2, and further comprising a data processing unit, wherein the data conversion unit is operatively connected with the data processing unit and the remote unit, so that the data conversion unit is configured as an expansion module of a standard browser installed on the data processing unit.

8. The device of claim 7, wherein the expansion module is configured to be loadable via the Internet and couplable to the standard browser.
9. The device of claim 1, and further comprising a data processing unit, wherein the data conversion unit is operatively connected with the data processing unit and the remote unit, so that the data conversion unit is configured as an application software module installed on the data processing unit.
10. The device of claim 9, wherein the application software module is implemented as one of a database program, an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) program or a data history logging program.

11. A method for data transmission to access from a remote unit via a standard browser at least one automation device, comprising the steps of:
- a) transmitting the data between the remote unit and the at least one automation device by connecting a data conversion unit therebetween;
 - b) exchanging the data between the at least one automation device and the data conversion unit and between the automation devices according to a first communication protocol;
 - c) exchanging the data between the data conversion unit and the remote unit according to a second communication protocol; and
 - d) causing the data conversion unit to convert the data according to the first communication protocol into the data according to the second communication protocol.